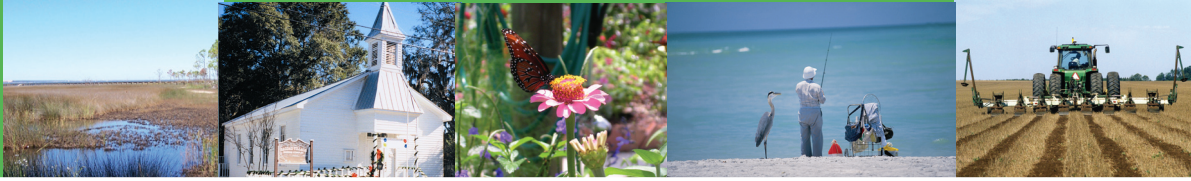


Your County, Your Government

By the Numbers



Fact Sheet #7
July 31, 2008



How do we compare?

Cost Per Citizen

Santa Rosa County has one of the lowest per capita costs per citizen, or the average amount citizens pay for county services, in the state of Florida. When you compare counties, you should also factor in the amount of people living in unincorporated areas. People living in incorporated areas, or towns and cities, generally pay for and utilize town and city services. The more people you have living in unincorporated areas, the greater the number of people you will have utilizing only the services provided by a county.

The good work being done by Santa Rosa County is shown in the numbers- Santa Rosa County provides its services at the lowest cost compared to four of five neighboring and similar size counties. Okaloosa County does have a lower per capita rate, but it also has only **59 percent** of its population living in unincorporated areas, where Santa Rosa has **90 percent**.

Cost Per Citizen for Comparable Counties

County	FY2007 Population*	Ad Valorem* Per Capita	2008 Budget** Per Capita	Notes	% of Population in Unincorporated Areas
Citrus	139,938	565.6	798.3		92%
Escambia	309,191	444.5	726.1	2008 Budget does NOT include Law Enforcement MSTU	82%
Indian River	139,317	709.6	748.4		65%
Martin	142,461	849.8	1,089.7		86%
Okaloosa	195,060	350.4	504.1		59%
Santa Rosa	139,513	420.1	573.2		90%

* 2007 Population & Per Capita Ad Valorem Taxes provided by the State.

** 2008 Budget for Taxing Funds Expenditure only (General Fund and Road & Bridge only)

How can Santa Rosa stay so low? Staffing is key

SRC Not Top Heavy

In 2002, Santa Rosa County restructured to "flatten" or reduce management level positions. Currently, management staff makes up only **12 percent** of the board of county commissioner's workforce. This is significantly lower than our neighboring and cohort counties, where management can account for **15-25 percent** of staff.

...Continued on next page

Management to Staff Comparison

County	# of Management	# of Staff	% of Management to Staff	Management to Staff Ratio
Citrus County	90	590	15%	1:7
Escambia County	177	1,091	16%	1:6
Indian River County	166	756	21%	1:5
Martin	157	633	25%	1:4
Okaloosa County	154	843	18%	1:5
Santa Rosa County	45	371	12%	1:8

Management was defined as administrators, directors, managers and frontline supervisors.

Workforce Numbers are Lean

The Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners and their staff have worked hard over the past two years to reduce staffing levels by aligning workforce with workload. The staffing level found in the proposed fiscal year 2008/2009 budget is at pre-Ivan levels. Since 2006, 85 positions or a 19 percent of the workforce has been reduced. The largest cut was made to the public services department with a 28 percent reduction. This department saw an increase in demand for services from the building industry after Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis, followed by a reduced need with the downturn in the building market, and adjusted accordingly. Public works staffing levels were also reduced by 13 percent by restructuring work crews and continued implementation of innovative methods to meet increased demand for services with a smaller workforce.

Fiscal Year	BOCC Staff Level	Fiscal Year	BOCC Staff Level
1999/2000	340	2004/2005	407
2000/2001	361	2005/2006	450
2001/2002	379	2006/2007	481
2002/2003	385	2007/2008	450
2003/2004	395	Proposed 2008/2009	407

In fact, the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners has the least number of employees per resident when compared to our neighboring counties and those Florida counties of similar size. At current staffing levels, we average one employee for every 335 residents. While some counties staff numbers are larger because they include county-run EMS and fire services, Santa Rosa County's staffing numbers are significantly lower than our comparable counties.

County	Population	# of Staff	Staff to Resident Ratio
Citrus	139,938	680	1:206
Escambia	309,191	1,268	1:244
Indian River	139,317	922	1:151
Martin	142,461	790	1:180
Okaloosa	195,060	997	1:166
Santa Rosa	139,513	416	1:335

**Subscribe to receive new issues automatically or to view the
"Your County, Your Government" fact sheet series, visit www.santarosa.fl.gov.
A hard copy can also be obtained by calling (850) 983-1877.**

